

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD) released the following statement today after the Department of Labor announced unemployment numbers for April:

“The economy added 290,000 jobs in April, which is good news for our recovery from recession and shows that employers and workers are starting to have some confidence in the economy. The number of jobs added last month was the highest in four years, and the vast majority of them were in the private sector.

“But with the middle class still hurting and millions of Americans still out of work, Congress’s job-creating work continues. In the past month, President Obama signed into law legislation giving small businesses payroll tax credits for every new employee hired, and Congress is working to pass legislation to expand job-creating state and local bond programs and make it easier to invest in small businesses. And just yesterday, the House passed the HomeStar Energy Retrofit Act, which gives homeowners incentives to upgrade their energy efficiency—which, in turn, is expected to create 168,000 jobs in the construction and manufacturing industries. All of this legislation shows how seriously Congress takes the ongoing challenge of doing what we can to help the private sector create jobs.

“Today’s news, combined with last week’s news that our economy has grown for three quarters in a row, paints an encouraging picture of growing economic health. But we do not consider our work complete until this month’s good news repeats itself many times over.”

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